

Amendments to the Claims

This listing of claims will replace all prior versions, and listings of claims in the application:

Listing of Claims:

Claims 1-18 (canceled)

Claim 19 (previously presented): A floor cleaning device comprising:

- a base for movement along a surface;
- a channel formed in said base;
- a nozzle assembly removably attached to said base, said nozzle assembly including a squeegee;
- a vacuum source associated with said nozzle assembly for generating suction to draw dirt from the surface into the nozzle assembly; and
- wherein said nozzle assembly includes a slide latch, said slide latch slidably engaging said channel of said base to attach said nozzle assembly to said base, said slide latch slidably disengaging said channel to detach said nozzle assembly from said base.

Claim 20 (currently amended): The floor cleaning device of claim 19 wherein said squeegee assembly includes a front blade and a rear blade.

Claim 21 (previously presented): The floor cleaning device of claim 19 including a brush assembly secured to said base adjacent said nozzle assembly.

Claim 22 (previously presented): A floor cleaning device comprising:

- a base for movement along a surface;
- a channel formed in said base;
- a nozzle assembly removably attached to said base;
- a vacuum source associated with said nozzle assembly for generating suction to draw dirt from the surface into the nozzle assembly;
- said nozzle assembly including a slide latch, said slide latch slidably engaging said channel of said base to attach said nozzle assembly to said base, said slide latch slidably disengaging said channel to detach said nozzle assembly from said base; and
- said base including a cam member, wherein said slide latch cams against said cam member to guide said nozzle assembly against said base thereby forming a close fit to said base upon said slide latch engaging said channel of said base to attach said nozzle assembly to said base.

Claim 23 (previously presented): The floor cleaning device of claim 22 including a duct secured to said base and fluidly connected to said nozzle assembly upon said nozzle assembly being attached to said base, and wherein said slide latch cams against said cam member to guide said nozzle assembly against said base to sealingly engage said nozzle assembly to said duct.

Claim 24 (previously presented): The floor cleaning device of claim 23

wherein said nozzle assembly includes a spacer fluidly connected between said nozzle assembly and said duct.

Claim 25 (previously presented): The floor cleaning device of claim 22 wherein said cam member comprises a protrusion formed on said base, said protrusion being beveled with respect to said slide latch.

Claim 26 (previously presented): A floor cleaning device comprising:

a base for movement along a surface, said base including a rib formed thereon;

a nozzle assembly removably attached to said base;

a vacuum source associated with said nozzle assembly for generating suction to draw dirt from the surface into the nozzle assembly;

said nozzle assembly including a slide latch, said slide latch including a hook portion; and

wherein said hook portion engages said rib to secure said nozzle assembly to said base upon said slide latch sliding a predetermined distance.

Claim 27 (previously presented): The floor cleaning device of claim 26 including a channel formed in said base, said slide latch slidably engaging said channel of said base to attach said nozzle assembly to said base, said slide latch slidably disengaging said channel to detach said nozzle assembly from said base.

Claim 28 (previously presented): The floor cleaning device of claim 26 wherein said nozzle assembly includes a squeegee attached thereto.

Claim 29 (previously presented): The floor cleaning device of claim 26 wherein said base includes a cam member, wherein said slide latch cams against said cam member to guide said nozzle assembly against said base thereby forming a close fit to said base upon said slide latch sliding said predetermined distance.

Claim 30 (previously presented): The floor cleaning device of claim 29 including a duct secured to said base and fluidly connected to said nozzle assembly upon said nozzle assembly being attached to said base, and wherein said slide latch cams against said cam member to guide said nozzle assembly against said base to sealingly engage said nozzle assembly to said duct.

Claim 31 (previously presented): The floor cleaning device of claim 30 wherein said nozzle assembly includes a spacer fluidly connected between said nozzle assembly and said duct.

Claim 32 (previously presented): The floor cleaning device of claim 29 wherein said cam member comprises a protrusion formed on said base, said protrusion being beveled with respect to said slide latch.

Claim 33 (previously presented): A floor cleaning device comprising:

a base for movement along a surface, said base including a cam member;
a nozzle assembly removably attached to said base;
a vacuum source associated with said nozzle assembly for generating suction to draw dirt from the surface into the nozzle assembly;
said nozzle assembly including a slide latch; and
wherein said slide latch cams against said cam member to guide said nozzle assembly against said base thereby forming a close fit to said base upon said slide latch slidably engaging said base to attach said nozzle assembly to said base.

Claim 34 (previously presented): The floor cleaning device of claim 33 wherein said nozzle assembly includes a squeegee attached thereto.

Claim 35 (previously presented): The floor cleaning device of claim 33 including a duct secured to said base and fluidly connected to said nozzle assembly upon said nozzle assembly being attached to said base, and wherein said slide latch cams against said cam member to guide said nozzle assembly against said base to sealingly engage said nozzle assembly to said duct.

Claim 36 (previously presented): The floor cleaning device of claim 35 wherein said nozzle assembly includes a spacer fluidly connected between said nozzle assembly and said duct.

Claim 37 (previously presented): The floor cleaning device of claim 33 wherein said cam member comprises a protrusion formed on said base, said protrusion being beveled with respect to said slide latch.

Claim 38 (currently amended): A floor cleaning device comprising:

a base for movement along a surface;

a fluid distribution system associated with said base for distributing cleaning fluid to said surface;

a channel formed in said base;

a nozzle assembly removably attached to said base;

a recovery tank in fluid communication with said nozzle assembly;

a vacuum source associated with said nozzle assembly for generating suction to draw dirt from the surface through the nozzle assembly and into the recovery tank; and

wherein said nozzle assembly includes a slide latch, said slide latch slidably engaging said channel of said base to attach said nozzle assembly to said base, said slide latch slidably disengaging said channel to detach said nozzle assembly from said base.

Claim 39 (previously presented): The floor cleaning device of claim 38 including a handle assembly pivotally connected to said base.

Claim 40 (previously presented): The floor cleaning device of claim 39 wherein said recovery tank is removably mounted to said handle assembly.

Claim 41 (previously presented): The floor cleaning device of claim 39 wherein said fluid distribution system includes a solution tank.

Claim 42 (previously presented): The floor cleaning device of claim 38 wherein said nozzle assembly includes a squeegee attached thereto.

Claim 43 (previously presented): The floor cleaning device of claim 38 wherein said nozzle assembly includes a nozzle part, said slide latch slides along said nozzle part.

Claim 44 (currently amended): A floor cleaning device comprising:

a base part for movement along a cleaning surface, ~~said base having an upper portion, said upper portion having an outer surface;~~

a fluid distribution system associated with said base part for distributing cleaning fluid to said cleaning surface;

a nozzle part assembly removably attached to said base part, ~~said nozzle assembly having an upper portion, said upper portion having an outer surface, said nozzle part having a front end, a rear end, and side ends, wherein the distance between the side ends is greater than the distance between the front and rear ends; greater transverse distance than its longitudinal distance with respect to the cleaning path of the base as it moves along the cleaning surface;~~

a recovery tank in fluid communication with said nozzle part assembly;

a vacuum source associated with said nozzle part assembly for generating suction to draw dirt from the cleaning surface through the nozzle part assembly and into the recovery tank; and

~~a first retaining member provided on said upper portion of one of said nozzle assembly and said base, operatively associated with said nozzle part and said base part to removably attach said nozzle part to said base part, said first retaining member being accessible from the top of the floor cleaning device and moved to a first position with respect to said nozzle part to detach said nozzle part from said base part, said outer surface of said upper portion of said base to engage other one of said nozzle assembly and said base to attach said nozzle assembly to said base, said first retaining member being accessible from said outer surface of said upper portion of said base to disengage said other one of said nozzle assembly and said base to detach said nozzle assembly from said base.~~

Claim 45 (currently amended): The floor cleaning device of claim 44 including a handle assembly pivotally connected to said base portion part.

Claim 46 (previously presented): The floor cleaning device of claim 45 wherein said recovery tank is removably mounted to said handle assembly.

Claim 47 (previously presented): The floor cleaning device of claim 45 wherein said fluid distribution system includes a solution tank.

Claim 48 (currently amended): The floor cleaning device of claim 44 including

a squeegee attached to wherein said nozzle part. assembly includes a
squeegee attached thereto.

Claim 49 (currently amended): The floor cleaning device of claim 44 wherein
said nozzle part assembly is translucent.

Claim 50 (currently amended): The floor cleaning device of claim 44 including
a second retaining member operatively associated with said nozzle part and
said base part to removably attach said nozzle part to said base part, said
second retaining member being accessible from the top of the floor cleaning
device and moved to a first position with respect to said nozzle part to detach
said nozzle part from said base part, provided on said upper portion of one of
said nozzle assembly and said base, said first retaining member being
accessible from said outer surface of said upper portion of said base to
engage other one of said nozzle assembly and said base to attach said
nozzle assembly to said base, said first retaining member being accessible
from said outer surface of said upper portion of said base to disengage said
other one of said nozzle assembly and said base to detach said nozzle
assembly from said base.

Claim 51 (currently amended): The floor cleaning device of claim 44, wherein
said first retaining engaging member is a slide latch.

Claim 52 (currently amended): The floor cleaning device of claim 44 including
a brush assembly for engaging said cleaning surface being cleaned, said

brush assembly being removably connected to said base part main body;

an actuator positioned on said base part and operatively connected to said brush assembly; and

wherein actuating said actuator disconnects said brush assembly from said base part.

Claim 53 (currently amended): A floor cleaning device comprising:

a base part for movement along a cleaning surface, ~~said base having an upper portion, said upper portion having an outer surface;~~

a fluid distribution system associated with said base part for distributing cleaning fluid to said cleaning surface;

a nozzle part assembly removably attached to said base part, ~~said nozzle assembly having an upper portion, said upper portion having an outer surface;~~

a recovery tank in fluid communication with said nozzle part assembly;

a vacuum source associated with said nozzle part assembly for generating suction to draw dirt from the cleaning surface through the nozzle part assembly and into the recovery tank; and

at least a pair of retaining members ~~provided on said upper portion of one of said nozzle assembly and said base, operatively associated with~~ said nozzle part and said base part to removably attach said nozzle part to said base part, said retaining members being accessible from the top of the floor cleaning device and moved to a first position with respect to said nozzle part to detach said nozzle part from said base part. said retaining

~~members being accessible from said outer surface of said upper portion of one of said nozzle assembly and said base to engage other one of said nozzle assembly and said base to attach said nozzle assembly to said base, said retaining members being accessible from said outer surface of said upper portion of one of said nozzle assembly and said base to disengage said other one of said nozzle assembly and said base to detach said nozzle assembly from said base.~~

Claim 54 (currently amended): The floor cleaning device of claim 53 including a handle assembly pivotally connected to said base part.

Claim 55 (previously presented): The floor cleaning device of claim 54 wherein said recovery tank is removably mounted to said handle assembly.

Claim 56 (previously presented): The floor cleaning device of claim 54 wherein said fluid distribution system includes a solution tank.

Claim 57 (currently amended): The floor cleaning device of claim 53 including a squeegee attached to wherein said nozzle part, assembly includes a squeegee attached thereto.

Claim 58 (currently amended): The floor cleaning device of claim 53 wherein said nozzle part assembly is translucent.

Claim 59 (currently amended): The floor cleaning device of claim 53 wherein

said retaining members are positioned on opposite sides of said nozzle part
when said nozzle part is attached to said base part by said retaining
members. ~~upper portion of said one of said nozzle assembly and said base.~~

Claim 60 (previously presented): The floor cleaning device of claim 53,
wherein said retaining members are slide latches.

Claim 61 (currently amended): A floor cleaning device comprising:

a base part for movement along a cleaning surface, ~~said base having an~~
~~upper portion, said upper portion having an outer surface;~~

a fluid distribution system associated with said base part for
distributing cleaning fluid to said cleaning surface;

a nozzle part assembly removably attached to said base part, ~~said~~
~~nozzle assembly having an upper portion, said upper portion having an~~
~~outer surface;~~

a recovery tank in fluid communication with said nozzle part
assembly;

a vacuum source associated with said nozzle part assembly for
generating suction to draw dirt from the surface through the nozzle part
assembly and into the recovery tank;

a first retaining member provided on ~~said upper portion of one of said~~
~~nozzle assembly and said base, operatively associated with said nozzle~~
~~part and said base part to removably attach said nozzle part to said base~~
~~part, said first retaining member being accessible from the top of the floor~~
~~cleaning device to detach said nozzle part from said base part; said first~~

~~retaining member being accessible from said outer surface of said upper portion of said base to engage other one of said nozzle assembly and said base to attach said nozzle assembly to said base, said first retaining member being accessible from said outer surface of said upper portion of said base to disengage said other one of said nozzle assembly and said base to detach said nozzle assembly from said base;~~

a brush assembly for engaging a surface the surface being cleaned, said brush assembly being removably connected to said base part main body;

an actuator positioned on said base part and operatively connected to said brush assembly; and

wherein actuating said actuator disconnects said brush assembly from said base part.

Claim 62 (currently amended): The floor cleaning device of claim 61 including a handle assembly pivotally connected to said base part.

Claim 63 (previously presented): The floor cleaning device of claim 62 wherein said recovery tank is removably mounted to said handle assembly.

Claim 64 (previously presented): The floor cleaning device of claim 62 wherein said fluid distribution system includes a solution tank.

Claim 65 (currently amended): The floor cleaning device of claim 61 including a squeegee attached to ~~wherein~~ said nozzle part, ~~assembly includes a squeegee attached thereto~~.

Claim 66 (currently amended): The floor cleaning device of claim 61 wherein said nozzle part assembly is translucent.

Claim 67 (currently amended): The floor cleaning device of claim 61 including a second retaining member operatively associated with said nozzle part and said base part to removably attach said nozzle part to said base part, said second retaining member being accessible from the top of the floor cleaning device to detach said nozzle part from said base part, provided on said upper portion of one of said nozzle assembly and said base, said second retaining member being accessible from said outer surface of said upper portion of said base to engage other one of said nozzle assembly and said base to attach said nozzle assembly to said base, said second retaining member being accessible from said outer surface of said upper portion of said base to disengage said other one of said nozzle assembly and said base to detach said nozzle assembly from said base.

Claim 68 (currently amended): The floor cleaning device of claim 61, wherein said first retaining engaging member is a slide latch.

Claim 69 (currently amended): A floor cleaning device comprising:
a base part for movement along a cleaning surface, said base having an upper portion, said upper portion having an outer surface;
a recovery system for recovering dirt from said cleaning surface, said recovery system including a part removably attached to said base part,

~~said part having an upper portion, said upper portion having an outer surface;~~

a vacuum source associated with said recovery system for generating suction to draw dirt from the surface into said recovery system;
a slide latch operatively associated with said base part and said part of said recovery system to removably attach said part of said recovery system to said base part, said slide latch being accessible from the top of the floor cleaning device to detach said part of said recovery system from said base part; slidingly mounted to said upper portion of one of said base and said part, said slide latch being accessible from said outer surface of said upper portion of one of said base and said part to slidingly engage other one of said base and said part to attach said part to said base, said slide latch being accessible from said outer surface of said upper portion of one of said base and said part to slidingly disengage said other one of said nozzle assembly and said base to detach said part from said base;
a rib operatively associated with slide latch, said base part, and said part of said recovery system, wherein said other one of said base and said part having a rib formed thereon, said slide latch having a portion sliding over and engaging said rib to secure said part of said recovery system to said base part upon said slide latch sliding a predetermined distance along a plane parallel to said cleaning surface.

Claim 70 (previously presented): The floor cleaning device of claim 69 wherein said rib has a beveled portion.

Claim 71 (currently amended): The floor cleaning device of claim 70 wherein said slide latch includes a grip portion area for engagement by a user to facilitate in sliding said slide latch.

Claim 72 (currently amended): The floor cleaning device of claim 71 including a handle pivotally connected to said base part for propelling said base part along the cleaning surface.

Claim 73 (currently amended): A floor cleaning device comprising:
a base part for movement along a cleaning surface, said base having an upper portion, said upper portion having an outer surface;
a rotatable brush assembly mounted to said base part;
a front piece removably attached to said base part, said front piece being at least partially translucent and positioned with respect to said brush assembly for viewing at least a portion of said brush assembly, said front piece having an upper portion, said upper portion having an outer surface;
and
at least a pair of retaining members provided on said upper portion of one of said front piece and said base, operatively associated with said front piece and said base part to removably attach said front piece to said base part, said retaining members being accessible from the top of the floor cleaning device to detach said front piece from said base part. said retaining members being accessible from said outer surface of said upper portion of one of said front piece and said base to engage other one of said front piece and said base to attach said front piece to said base, said

~~retaining members being accessible from said outer surface of said upper portion of one of said front piece and said base to disengage said other one of said front piece and said base to detach said front piece from said base.~~

Claim 74 (currently amended): The floor cleaning device of claim 73 including a handle pivotally connected to said base part, said handle having a looped hand grip.

Claim 75 (currently amended): The floor cleaning device of claim 73 wherein said retaining members are positioned on opposite sides of the floor cleaning device. ~~said upper portion of one of said front piece and said base.~~

Claim 76 (currently amended): The floor cleaning device of claim 75 73 wherein said front piece has a front end, a rear end, and side ends, wherein the distance between the side ends is greater than the distance between the front and rear ends. has a greater transverse distance than longitudinal distance with respect to the cleaning path of the base as it moves along the cleaning surface.

Claim 77 (currently amended): The floor cleaning device of claim 76 wherein said retaining members are positioned on opposite sides of the floor cleaning device. ~~said upper portion of one of said front piece and said base.~~

Claim 78 (currently amended): The floor cleaning device of claim 77 including

a female portion, wherein said retaining member includes a male portion extending through a female said female portion on other one of said front piece and said base.

Claim 79 (previously presented): The floor cleaning device of claim 77 wherein said front piece slopes forwardly and downwardly terminating closely adjacent said cleaning surface.

Claim 80 (new): The floor cleaning device of claim 44 wherein said nozzle part is removed from said base part without the use of tools.

Claim 81 (new): The floor cleaning device of claim 53 wherein said nozzle part is removed from said base part without the use of tools.

Claim 82 (new): The floor cleaning device of claim 61 wherein said nozzle part is removed from said base part without the use of tools.

Claim 83 (new): The floor cleaning device of claim 69 wherein said part of said recovery system is removed from said base part without the use of tools.

Claim 84 (new): The floor cleaning device of claim 73 wherein said front piece is removed from said base part without the use of tools.

Claim 85 (new): A cleaning device comprising:
a base part for movement along a cleaning surface;

a fluid distribution system associated with said base part for distributing cleaning fluid to the cleaning surface;

a nozzle part removably attached to said base part;

a recovery tank in fluid communication with said nozzle part;

a vacuum source associated with said nozzle part for generating suction to draw dirt from the cleaning surface to the nozzle part and into the recovery tank; and

a pair of slidable retaining members operatively associated with said nozzle part and said base part to removably attach said nozzle part to said base part, said retaining members being slid to a first position with respect to said nozzle part to attach said nozzle part to said base part, said retaining members being slid to a second position with respect to said nozzle part to detach said nozzle part from said base part.

Claim 86 (new): The cleaning device of claim 85 wherein said nozzle part is removed from said base part without the use of tools.

Claim 87 (new): The cleaning device of claim 85 including a brush assembly for engaging the surface being cleaned.

Claim 88 (new): The cleaning device of claim 87 wherein said brush assembly is removably connected to said base part.

Claim 89 (new): The cleaning device of claim 85 wherein said base part is supported by at least a pair of wheels, each of said wheels including a tire.

Claim 90 (new): The cleaning device of claim 85 wherein said retaining members are slide latches.

Claim 91 (new): The cleaning device of claim 90 wherein said slide latch includes a grip portion for engagement by a user to facilitate in sliding said slide latch.

Claim 92 (new): The cleaning device of claim 90 including a rib formed on said base part, said slide latch having a portion sliding over and engaging said rib.

Claim 93 (new): The cleaning device of claim 90 wherein said rib is beveled.

Claim 94 (new): The cleaning device of claim 85 wherein said retaining members are accessible from the top of the cleaning device for attaching and detaching said nozzle part with said base part.

Claim 95 (new): The cleaning device of claim 85 including a handle assembly pivotally connected to said base part.

Claim 96 (new): The cleaning device of claim 95 wherein said fluid distribution system includes a solution tank.

Claim 97 (new): The cleaning device of claim 85 including a squeegee

attached to said nozzle part.

Claim 98 (new): The cleaning device of claim 85 wherein said nozzle part is translucent.